

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Final Office Action mailed November 9, 2009. Applicants note, with appreciation, that claims 46, 54 and 55 were objected to and, on page 4 of the Office Action, are noted as being allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response thereto, Applicants have amended independent claim 27 to incorporate the sum and substance of allowable claim 54 into claim 27. As such, it is believed that claim 27 and claims dependent on newly-amended claim 27 are allowable. Those claims include claims 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 44, 45, 46 (already indicated as being allowable), 47, 48, 56 and 57. In addition, independent claim 35 has been amended to include the sum and substance of its dependent claim 49. Dependent claim 49 is, essentially, a method version of dependent claim 54 which, as noted above, has been indicated as being allowable if written in independent form. Thus, with the foregoing amendment to method claim 35, as well as other amendments made to claim 35 to "parallel" apparatus claim 27, it is believed that claim 35, as now amended, is also allowable.

Claims 41, 42, 43, 50, 51, 52 and 53, which are dependent directly on new-amended claim 35, should also be allowable for the reasons given above. Each of those claims incorporates each and every limitation contained in newly-amended claim 35.

New claims 56 and 57 have been added. Support for such new claims is found in at least paragraphs [0020] to [0023] of the published application (US 2007/0230520), Figure 1A of the drawings, and paragraph [0033] and Figure 2A for the collimation lens configuration. Each of the new claims is dependent on claim 27 and for the reasons given above should also be allowable.

Applicants have examined the prior art cited against the claims rejected in the last Office Action; that is, claims 27-45 and 47-53, but believe, with the amendments made and discussed above, that all the claims in the application now are allowable.

Entry of the Amendment and allowance of the newly-amended claims is respectfully requested. Applicants reserve their right to pursue other claims and additional divisional or continuing applications.

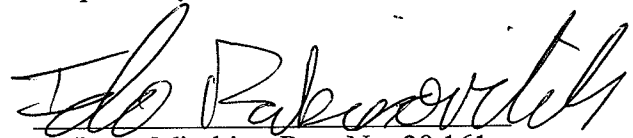
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

On the basis of the foregoing amendments, applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 27-48, 50-53 and 55-57 are in condition for allowance. If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. Applicants reserve the right to introduce, articulate, or otherwise present any such reasons for allowance as may be appropriate at a later time.

The Commissioner is also hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 35678-609N01US.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 15, 2010